

**ON SOME COLEOPTERA FROM NORTHERN AUSTRALIA,  
COLLECTED BY DR. H. BASEDOW.**

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The South Australian Museum has recently received from Dr. H. Basedow, some insects he collected when leading expeditions to interior parts of Northern Australia. The localities are as follows:—

Horse-shoe Bend to MacDonnell Ranges, May-July, 1920 (Commonwealth Government Medical Relief Expedition).

Petermann Ranges, June, 1926 (First Mackay Exploration Expedition).

Interior Arnhem Land, July, 1928 (Second Mackay Exploration Expedition).

The most interesting capture was a remarkable weevil of a new genus, herein named *Basedowia basicollis*.

CICINDELIDAE.

MEGACEPHALA HOWITTI Cast. Arnhem Land.

CARABIDAE.

ADOTELA CONCOLOR Cast. MacDonnell Ranges.

CALOSOMA SCHAYERI Er. Arnhem Land, Finke River Valley, Petermann Ranges.

CARENUM BREVICOLLE Sln. Arnhem Land.

C. TRANSVERSICOLLE Chd. Petermann Ranges.

CHLAENIUS AUSTRALIS Dej. Finke River Valley, Petermann Ranges.

EURYSCAPHUS OBESUS Macl. Finke River Valley, MacDonnell Ranges.

GIGADEMA INTERMEDIUM Gestro. Petermann Ranges.

PHILOSCAPHUS TEPPERI Blackb. Finke River Valley, Petermann Ranges.

PHORTICOSOMUS BRUNNEUS Blackb. Finke River.

P. GRANDIS Cast. Arnhem Land, Finke River, Petermann Ranges.

P. HORNII Sln. Arnhem Land.

DYTISCIDAE.

ERETES AUSTRALIS Er. Arnhem Land.

HOMOEODYTES ATRATUS Fab. Arnhem Land.

HYDATIUS VITTATUS Fab. MacDonnell Ranges.

RHANTUS PULVEROSUS Steph. MacDonnell Ranges.

GYRINIDAE.

MACROGYRUS LATIOR Clark. MacDonnell Ranges.

HYDROPHILIDAE.

HYDROPHILUS ALBIPES Cast. Finke River Valley.

STERNOLOPHUS NITIDULUS Macl. MacDonnell Ranges.

## SCARABAEIDAE.

- BOLBOCERAS CARPENTARIAE Macl. Arnhem Land.  
 CACOCHROA OBSCURA Blackb. Petermann Ranges.  
 HAPLONYCHA DECEPTOR Blackb. Petermann Ranges.  
 H. GRIFFITHI Blackb. Arnhem Land.  
 H. TINDALEI Lea. Arnhem Land.

*Haplonycha rufocastanea*, n. sp.

♂. Dark reddish-castaneous, with a bluish iridescence, more distinct on clytra than elsewhere. Sterna and parts of legs with long reddish-flavous hairs, upper surface glabrous, elytral fringe extremely short.

Head with crowded punctures, becoming sparse and small in front. Antennae eight-jointed, first joint longer than the four following combined, second stouter and slightly longer than third, fourth with one side narrowed to apex, fifth very short, somewhat produced internally, club with elongate lamellae, each almost as long as the other joints combined. Prothorax more than thrice as wide as long, sides strongly rounded; with numerous rather shallow punctures, about as large as on head, but much less dense, and becoming rather sparse on sides. Elytra with sides feebly dilated to beyond the middle; with regular but rather feeble geminate striae; punctures about as large as on pronotum but sparser. Pygidium with a feeble median line and with dense and small irregular punctures (almost shagreened). Second joint of hind tarsi slightly longer than first and the length of fifth. Length, 17 mm.

Petermann Ranges (unique).

Belongs to Blackburn's first section of the genus, and of the other species of that section *H. crinita* and *erythrocephala* have conspicuous prothoracic clothing, *H. ruficeps* and *neglecta* are larger and paler, with opaque pronotum, and *H. octoarticulata*, to which at first glance it appears to belong, has a conspicuous elytral fringe; on the type of this species the fringe is so short as to be practically invisible.

- HETERONYX CASTANEUS Macl. Finke River.  
 H. MODESTUS Blackb. Finke River.  
 HYPHORYCTES MACULATUS Blackb. Arnhem Land.  
 LEPIDIOTA FLAVIPENNIS Lea. Arnhem Land.  
 ONTHOPHAGUS CONSENTANEUS Har. Finke River, MacDonnell Ranges.  
 TROX CROTCHI Har. Petermann Ranges.  
 T. FENESTRATUS Har. Arnhem Land.  
 T. LITIGIOSUS Har. Petermann Ranges.

## ELATERIDAE.

- AGRYPNUS MASTERSI Macl. Finke River, Petermann Ranges.  
 LACON CONSPICIENDUS Elst. Finke River.  
 MACROMALOCERA SINUATICOLLIS Blackb. Arnhem Land.

## MALACODERMIDAE.

- LAIUS MAJOR Blackb. Finke River.

## BOSTRYCHIDAE.

- BOSTRYCHOPSIS JESUITA Fab. Arnhem Land, Finke River, Petermann Ranges.

## TENEBRIONIDAE.

- ADELUM TROPICUM* Blackb. Finke River.  
*BRISES BLAIRI* Cart. Arnhem Land.  
*B. TRACHYNOTOIDES* Pasc. Petermann Ranges.  
*CHALCOPTERUS LONGIUSCULUS* Blackb. Finke River.  
*HELAEUS DERBYENSIS* MacI. Petermann Ranges.  
*H. INGENS* Blackb. Petermann Ranges.  
*H. INTERIORIS* MacI. MacDonnell Ranges.  
*H. SQUAMOSUS* Pasc. Finke River.  
*HYPULAX ORCUS* Pasc. Arnhem Land, Finke River.  
*NYCTOZYLUS APPROXIMATUS* Blackb. Arnhem Land, Petermann Ranges.  
*N. SLOANEI* Blackb. Petermann Ranges.  
*ONOSTERRHUS GRANULATUS* Cart. Petermann Ranges.  
*PTEROHELAEUS ALTERNATUS* Pasc. Finke River Valley.

*PTEROHELAEUS ARCANUS* Pasc.

A specimen from Arnhem Land possibly represents a variety of this species. It differs from typical specimens in being darker, and by the suture and costae of elytra being without small shining granules.

- SARAGUS INTRICATUS* Champ. Finke River.  
*S. TRICARINATUS* Blackb. Arnhem Land.

## CURCULIONIDAE.

- ACHERRES GRANULATUS* Ferg. MacDonnell Ranges, Petermann Ranges.

*Basedowia*, n. gen.

Head wide. Eyes ovate, lateral, with fine facets. Rostrum very short, upper surface flattened; scrobes short, deep, and terminated near eyes. Antennae stout, scape shorter than funicle, most of the joints of the latter briefly cylindrical, club subovate. Prothorax in front about as wide as the median length, base more than twice as wide, with the hind angles produced backwards and embracing shoulders, ocular lobes wide. Scutellum minute. Elytra widely cordate. Metasternum short, episterna narrow. Abdomen with two basal segments moderately large. Legs moderately long, front coxae rather widely separated, slightly more than the middle ones, but less than the hind ones; femora rather stout, unarmed; front tibiae denticulate on lower surface, third tarsal joint widely bilobed, claws equal and close together. Apterous.

The rostrum, antennae, and legs leave no doubt that this genus is allied to *Polyphrades*, but the hind angles of the prothorax acutely produced backwards and embracing the shoulders, at once distinguish it from all the genera of the Leptopsides. The elytra are unusually wide and cordate. The separation of the front coxae is unusual in the subfamily, but in *Mandalotus* is of only specific importance.

*Basedowia basicollis*, n. sp.

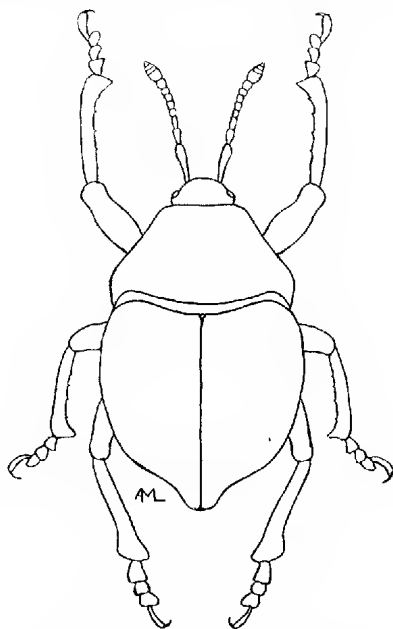
Black. Densely clothed with greyish scales.

Head with minute concealed punctures. Rostrum much wider than long, with a feeble median line, front with crowded punctures. Prothorax somewhat flattened in middle, sides obliquely dilated from apex to near base, and then drawn acutely backwards, with a feeble median line, with fairly large punctures, crowded together on sides, but less dense in middle. Elytra not one-fourth longer than wide, sides strongly rounded; with regular rows of fairly large punctures in shallow striae, interstices with dense and small punctures. Basal segment of abdomen slightly longer than second, the latter in middle about as long as third

and fourth combined, and slightly longer than fifth. Front tibiae rather long and denticulate except near base, middle tibiae shorter and with fewer denticles, hind tibiae unarmed. Length, 6-8 mm.

Arnhem Land (abundant).

All the specimens are badly abraded, but from the scales left it is evident that in life the insects are densely squamose; on some specimens from which most



**Basedowia basicollis**, n. sp.

of the elytral scales are absent an almost regular row of small setae may be seen on each interstice, but these are normally concealed by scales. The muzzle seems to have a triangular space on which there are no scales, but it is not a shining plate as on many species of *Polyphrades* and *Cherrus*.

*LEPTOPS CONTRARIUS* Blackb. Petermann Ranges.

*L. DUPONTI* Boi., var. *INTERIORIS* Blackb. Arnhem Land, Finke River.

*L. GRAVIS* Blackb. Petermann Ranges.

*MYLLOCERUS CINERASCENS* Pasc. Petermann Ranges.

*ONESORUS ALBATUS* Lea. MacDonnell Ranges, Petermann Ranges.

*O. PULLATUS* Lea. Finke River.

*O. TARSALIS* Lea. Arnhem Land.

*ORTHORHINUS CYLINDRIROSTRIS* Fab. Arnhem Land.

*POLYPHRADES SATELLES* Blackb. Petermann Ranges.

***Polyphrades farinosus*, n. sp.**

Black. Densely clothed with small white scales, interspersed with short setae; the tibiae with fairly long hairs.

Head with small granules and punctures, longitudinally strigose between eyes. Rostrum longer than wide, sides incurved to middle, upper surface rather widely concave, with a median carina interrupted near apex by a transverse elevation, but continued beyond it to join a curvilinearly triangular apical plate. Scape not as long as rostrum, four apical joints of funicle strongly transverse. Prothorax somewhat flattened, strongly transverse, sides strongly rounded and widest slightly

nearer apex than base; densely granulate. Elytra elongate-subcordate, widest at about basal third, base conjointly arcuate, an obtuse swelling on each side at the basal fourth, its middle on the fourth interstice, suture subtuberculate at summit of apical slope; with rows of large punctures in shallow striae, the interstices multigranulate. Legs moderately long, front tibiae strongly denticulate, the others less strongly so. Length, 15-17 mm.

Finke River (three specimens).

It is with some doubts that I refer this species to *Polyphrades*, rather than to a new genus, but the claws are soldered together to near their tips, and the general outlines of the elytra are suggestive of *P. tumidulus* on a greatly enlarged scale. The scape is too short for the species to be referred to *Cherrus*. The head and rostrum are now almost glabrous, but were probably densely squamose on fresh specimens. The scales are unusually dense, and appear at first as if mixed with a whitish meal. Both prothorax and elytra are densely granulate, on the former the granules are sufficiently large to rise above the clothing, but on the latter they are too small to be seen before the scales have been abraded.

### ***Polyphrades gibbipennis*, n. sp.**

Black. Densely clothed with greyish and whitish scales, mixed with numerous white, depressed setae.

Head with small punctures, base transversely corrugated. Rostrum slightly longer than its greatest width, transversely impressed at base, punctures normally concealed, apical plate large, sharply defined and with small punctures. Antennae moderately long, four apical joints of funicle strongly transverse. Prothorax strongly transverse, sides dilated from base to near apex and then rapidly narrowed to apex itself, densely granulate. Elytra at base no wider than base of prothorax, but sides rather strongly dilated to near the middle, and then strongly narrowed to tips, which are obtusely conjointly rounded; with rows of large punctures, appearing smaller through clothing, third interstice conspicuously elevated on basal fourth only, the adjacent ones also somewhat elevated there, suture slightly thickened at summit of apical slope. Tibiae denticulate on lower surface, the front ones more distinctly than the others. Length, 8-10 mm.

Finke River (three specimens).

Allied to *P. tumidulus*, but differs in having the elevated part of the third interstice much more pronounced, and the rostral plate much larger (longer than wide instead of strongly transverse). The elytra are somewhat like those of *P. farinosus* on a greatly reduced scale, but the rostrum is very different. The elytra are also somewhat like of those of *P. crassicornis*, but the prothorax, rostrum, and antennae are very different. Seen from the side, the base of the third interstice on each elytron appears as the crest of a distinct hump.

### **POLYPHRADES CRASSICORNIS Lea?**

A specimen from the Finke River evidently belongs to the same species as three others from the Daly River, which are probably females of *P. crassicornis*; they differ from the types of that species in having the elytra longer and with the sides less dilated, and the third interstice on each not elevated near the base, the prothorax also is less dilated; but all these differences are possibly sexual only.

PHALIDURA GRANDIS Ferg. Finke River Valley.

SCLERORHINUS CONVEXUS Sln. Arnhem Land, MacDonnell Ranges, Petermann Ranges.

TALAUINUS IMITATOR Blackb. Arnhem Land, MacDonnell Ranges.

T. REGULARIS Sln., var. SOLIDUS Sln. Arnhem Land, MacDonnell Ranges, Petermann Ranges.

***Tentegia amplipennis*, n. sp.**

Black, antennae reddish. Moderately clothed with muddy brown scales and setae.

Head with large shallow punctures, each containing a stout seta. Rostrum stout, feebly curved, with large punctures close together, but not in rows. Antennae moderately long, two basal joints of funicle about as long as the five following ones combined. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded and notched near apex, which is widely produced in middle, with large punctures much as on rostrum, with a median carina traceable to apex but not to base. Elytra large, base trisinate and not as wide as widest part of prothorax, each side of base with a triangular projection slightly clasping base of prothorax, near base with a sudden projection supplied with a curved row of subconical granules, the space there much wider than across prothorax; with rows of large but rather shallow punctures, becoming deeper on sides, the interstices with distinct but rather sparse granules, absent from the sides. Mesosternal receptacle rather large, front edge but slightly incurved. Metasternum and two basal segments of abdomen with large punctures, those of the second segment of the latter partly confluent, third and fourth segments very short. Legs long, middle femora rather strongly dentate near apex, the others unarmed, front tibiae long, the apical half strongly curved, hind ones very little shorter but almost straight, middle ones much shorter, third tarsal joint slightly narrower than second. Length, 8-12 mm.

Finke River (Dr. H. Basedow), Batchelor and Darwin (G. F. Hill).

The posthumeral projections on the elytra are somewhat as on *T. ingrata*, but the base is very different, and is not, in conjunction with the base of the prothorax, so sculptured as to conceal the middle femora from above, the middle femora are quite strongly dentate, but the others are edentate. The species is certainly very different from all other described ones of the genus, and should perhaps have been made the type of a new one.

The next species, although not taken by Dr. Basedow, is included here, as belonging to the same genus as *T. amplipennis*.

***Tentegia quinquesinuata*, n. sp.**

Black, antennae reddish. Sparsely clothed.

Head with coarse crowded punctures. Rostrum stout, moderately curved, with coarse, crowded punctures in front, becoming lineate in arrangement between insertion of antennae and base. First joint of funicle slightly longer than second, the two about as long as the five following ones combined. Prothorax moderately transverse, sides strongly rounded, apex less than half the width of base; with coarse crowded punctures, in places granulate-punctate, with a short median carina. Elytra closely applied to prothorax, sides dilated just beyond base, and then rounded to apex, base with five sinuations on upper surface; a wide median incurvature, and two shorter ones, between the base of the third interstice on each elytron and the side; with rows of large punctures, the interstices each with a row of small shining granules, but more conspicuous at the base of the third, fifth, and seventh interstices than elsewhere. Mesosternal receptacle with rather coarse punctures, apical incurvature semi-circular. Metasternum very short. Two basal segments of abdomen with large, deep, irregular punctures, but absent from a median line on the first segment. Legs rather stout, femora grooved and edentate, third tarsal joint moderately bilobed. Length, 5 mm.

Queensland: Herberton (H. J. Carter).

Allied to *T. spenceri*, but smaller, more sparsely clothed, base of elytra different, and legs shorter and stouter. The base of the head, normally concealed, is transversely strigose.

## CERAMBYCIDAE.

- MICROTRAGUS ARACHNE Pasc. Arnhem Land.  
 PACHYDISSUS BOOPS Blackb. Petermann Ranges.  
 PHORACANTHA RECURVA Newm. Finke River, Petermann Ranges.  
 P. SEMIPUNCTATA Newm. Petermann Ranges.  
 RHYTIPHORA SAUNDERSI Pasc. MacDonnell Ranges.

## CHRYSOMELIDAE.

- CALOMELA PALLIDA Baly. Finke River.  
 C. WATERHOUSEI Baly. Petermann Ranges.  
 MEGAMERUS FEMORALIS Lea. MacDonnell Ranges.  
 OIDES PLANTARUM Blackb. Finke River.  
 PAROPSIS LATERALIS Blackb. Petermann Ranges.  
 P. PURPUREOVIRIDIS Clark. Finke River.  
 RHYPARIDA DIDYMA Fab. Finke River.  
 TOMYRIS VIRIDULA Er. MacDonnell Ranges.

## COCCINELLIDAE.

- ALESIA LINEOLA Fab. Finke River.  
 COCCINELLA ARCUATA Fab. Finke River.